



Performance Outcomes Update

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Upcoming Meetings

Children's Task Force

Sacramento Host Airport Hotel
December 5, 2000
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Older Adult Performance Outcomes

DMH Headquarters, Room 100
November 9, 2000
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

"Visit our Website!"

<http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/rpod>



RPOD staff are working hard to keep the Research and Performance Outcome Development Website up-to-date with the latest information including reports, graphs, statewide results, copies of the instruments that will be piloted as potential replacements for the current Children's Performance Outcome System, and other important information.

Update on the Child & Youth Performance Outcome System Pilot Study

Brenda Golladay
Technical Support,
Children & Youth Performance Outcomes

In mid-September, the DMH Research and Performance Outcome Development Unit (RPOD) mailed a solicitation letter to all California Mental Health Directors seeking volunteer counties to participate in a pilot test of the alternative instruments for the Children and Youth Performance Outcome System. Several counties have since expressed interest in participating in the pilot study set to begin in March 2001. Additionally, of those counties that have volunteered, a few have already begun participating in a "Pre"-Pilot for the purpose of finalizing the instruments and working out any training issues. The counties that have volunteered are listed below:

Pre-Pilot Counties (Starting Early)

Sacramento
Kern
Stanislaus
Sutter - Yuba
Alameda

All Pilot Counties

Sacramento	Sonoma
Kern	Stanislaus
Sutter - Yuba	Napa
Los Angeles	Alameda
Tri - City	Fresno

Counties that have volunteered will be required to administer the pilot instruments to a small sample of clients at "time one" and then again at six months. After completing the forms, county staff will fax the instruments to the DMH TELEform data collection system. Upon completion of the pilot study and with thorough collaboration of all of the stakeholders involved in the Children's Performance Outcome System, a decision regarding whether or not to replace the current system with the new instruments will be made. Any transition to a new system will be necessarily flexible in an effort to ease the transition and to assure that programs that have received grant funds based on using the current instruments as their evaluation component will not be disrupted.

To view the alternative instruments, please visit the DMH website at www.dmh.ca.gov. For more information about the pilot study (including information on how to become a participant), or if you are unable to access the DMH website, please contact Brenda Golladay at bgollada@dmhhq.state.ca.us or call her at (916) 654-3291.



Police Contacts and Dually Diagnosed Clients



Candace Cross-Drew
Dual Diagnosis Project Research Director

It has long been suspected that Dually Diagnosed (DD) clients have more frequent contact with police than do other persons with mental illness. Because they have two relapsing illnesses, substance abuse and mental illness, it is believed that DD clients have increased chances of coming into contact with law enforcement. Data from the recently completed interim report on the Dual Diagnosis Demonstration Projects provide some preliminary data to assess this belief.

The California Quality of Life (CA-QOL) instrument is administered to clients in the DD project at admission and every six months thereafter. A section of the CA-QOL dealing with legal and safety issues asks clients if they have been arrested or picked-up for any crimes in the last month. Note that the wording of this question includes both arrests and being picked-up by the police for a crime. Many DD clients are picked-up by the police when they are under the influence of drug or alcohol in public and are transported to medical facilities or detox centers. Thus, this question could elicit positive responses from those that were picked-up but not arrested, as well as positive responses from those actually arrested. Therefore, this question may overestimate the number of clients actually arrested.

One quarter of the clients in the Dual Diagnosis Demonstration Projects reported being arrested or picked-up by the police within the previous month. These data come from the CA-QOL given to DD clients at admission to the projects. As Chart A below shows, 75.1% of the DD clients report no contact with police.

Chart A

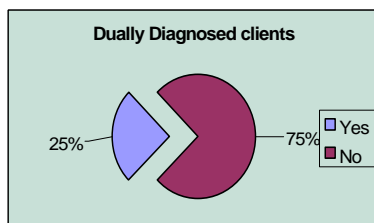
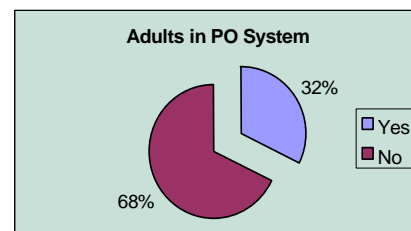
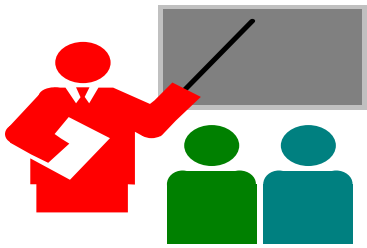


Chart B



Interestingly, when we look at the responses given by adult clients, who are part of the DMH Adult Performance Outcome System, we find a surprising difference. Using data from the Adult Performance Outcome System, we find that approximately one third of the adults report being arrested or picked-up by the police in the previous month. As Chart B above shows, 67.9% of the adults in that data set report no arrests or pick-ups. More clients in the Adult Performance Outcome data set report police contact in the last month than reported by DD clients.

This finding challenges the conventional wisdom that DD clients have more police contacts than other persons with mental illness. It could be that more of the DD clients in these demonstration projects were in detox or in a hospital before admission to the Dual Diagnosis Demonstration Project. Thus, in the previous month were not at risk of being arrested or picked-up because they were not at liberty to leave the detox facility or hospital. Alternatively, it could be that because of their substance abuse and its effect on their mental illness, DD clients may be more seriously impaired than the Adults in the Performance Outcome data set. Thus, they were less capable of committing the more serious types of crimes that would bring them to the attention of the police. There is also some question about the accuracy of self-reported data with Dually Diagnosed clients - they may not be able to accurately recall information. While all of these possible explanations are speculation, there is one point that is clear: mentally ill individuals have frequent contact with police, and programs that can effectively reduce these contacts have the potential to produce significant savings in the costs of law enforcement.



New Procedures For Performance Outcome Data Submissions

Traci Fujita
Technical Support, Adult
and Older Adult Performance Outcomes

As of October 1, 2000, the BBS will no longer be available for Performance Outcome data submissions. Instead, counties will be required to use the Information Technology Web Services (ITWS) to upload data. Counties not using the ITWS will need to obtain authorization. To become authorized, please visit the DMH ITWS website at <http://www.dmh.ca.gov> and click on the ITWS menu option. This site contains information on the function of the ITWS, as well as how to begin enrollment. For questions regarding the ITWS enrollment process, please call the DMH help desk at (916) 654-3117.

In addition to the ITWS requirement, text files that are zipped and transmitted to the Child and Youth and Adult Performance Outcome Systems must conform to the following conventions:

1. All text files (named in accordance with the data dictionary) **MUST** be zipped.
2. As long as data are uploaded via the **ITWS**, a secure site, zipped files will **no longer** need to be password encrypted.
3. Zipped files **MUST** be named according to the following **NEW** conventions:
 - CPODSccYYYYMM#SUBMITTAL.ZIP (CPODS = Child and Youth Performance Outcomes System)
 - APODSccYYYYMM#SUBMITTAL.ZIP (APODS = Adult Performance Outcome System)
 - OAPODSccYYYYMM#SUBMITTAL.ZIP (OAPODS = Older Adult Performance Outcome System – currently not in production at this time)

Furthermore:

- cc = County Code
- YYYYMM = Four Digit Year and Two Digit Month that data was due
- # = Submittal sequence number, 1 to 9 (do not use the “#” symbol). Each file with a new YYYYMM will have a submittal number of “1”. Anytime the file has to be resubmitted (e.g., due to errors), the submittal number will increase by 1. The word “SUBMITTAL” must follow this number.

DATA SUBMISSION EXAMPLES:

A file for the Adult Performance Outcome System due on April 16, 2001 would be named:

APODS992001041SUBMITTAL.ZIP

NAME cc YYYYMM # SUBMITTAL.ZIP

If the file must be resubmitted with corrections, the new file will be named:

APODS992001042SUBMITTAL.ZIP

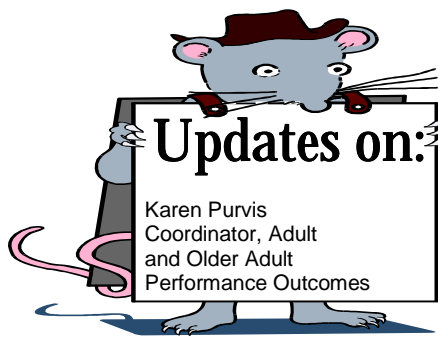
(Notice the submittal number is now a “2” since this is the second submission for the April 2001 deadline.)

For the *next* Adult Performance Outcome deadline on May 16, 2001, the new file would be named:

APODS992001051SUBMITTAL.ZIP

(Note: The submittal number is, once again, a “1” since this is the first submission for the May 2001 deadline.)

For technical questions related to the ITWS, please call the DMH help desk at (916) 654-3117. For questions related to data submission, please contact Brenda Golladay, Child and Youth Performance Outcome System, at (916) 654-3291 or Traci Fujita, Adult Performance Outcome System, at (916) 653-3300. Thank you.



Updates on: Older Adult Performance Outcome Pilot

- The Older Adult Performance Outcome Pilot Committee met on September 14th to continue discussion of issues related to selecting instruments to recommend for the Older Adult Performance Outcome System. Most pilot counties have now completed both first and second administrations of the pilot instruments. In addition to discussing instrument evaluation issues, considerable time was also spent discussing issues related to implementation methodology. Additionally, Paula Agostini, Manager of the DMH Client and Services Information System (CSI), provided some background on how often “encounter data” are collected on clients.
- The last Older Adult Committee meeting was held October 12, 2000. At this meeting each county representative updated the status of the pilot in their county, the committee compared national and statewide demographic data with pilot data, and continued its review of a revised draft of the face sheet.
- The next Older Adult Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 2000.



Adult Performance Outcome System

The Adult Performance Outcome System has now completed its first year of implementation. Counties that successfully submitted 4th quarter data in a timely fashion, with minimal errors (no major formatting or coding problems) were notified through a letter to their director that they can switch from quarterly to semi-annual reporting (next due date January 16, 2001). Approximately two-thirds of the counties have switched to semi-annual reporting or report their data through the TELEform system.

- Approximately one-third of the counties are still experiencing problems with their data coding, formatting, data transmission, or they failed to submit 4th quarter data in a timely fashion. These counties must maintain the quarterly reporting schedule (last due date was October 16, 2000). DMH staff will continue to work with these counties to assist in resolving their problems.
- **NEW PROCEDURES FOR PERFORMANCE OUTCOME DATA SUBMISSIONS.** In the past, Performance Outcome data submissions have been transmitted to DMH through either the Bulletin Board System (BBS) or the Information Technology Web Services (ITWS). **As of October 1, 2000, the BBS will no longer be available for Performance Outcome data submissions.** See article on page three for details and all counties will be required to use the ITWS.

